



**NOAA, NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE, WEATHER FORECAST OFFICE**

**Miami, Florida 33165**

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**NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE'S MIAMI FORECAST  
OFFICE (WFO MIAMI) PARTICIPATES IN THE CBS4 THIRD  
ANNUAL "MARLINS WEATHER DAY"!**



**Rob Molleda (left), WFO Miami's Warning Coordination Meteorologist and Dan Gregoria (right), WFO Miami Lead Forecaster with "Billy the Marlin" at the "Marlins Weather Day".**

**May 7, 2009:** Almost 8,000 students from grades 4 through 8 attended the WFOR-TV (CBS 4) third annual "Marlins Weather Day". Students had the opportunity to learn about the science of weather in a fun-filled environment – at Dolphins Stadium, home of the Major League Baseball Florida Marlins!

Rob Molleda, WFO Miami Warning Coordination Meteorologist and Dan Gregoria, Lead Forecaster at WFO Miami both had the pleasure of participating in this exciting event! Rob and Dan showed the students how the WFO obtains

information about wind, temperature, and humidity at different levels of the atmosphere – by releasing weather balloons!



**WFO Miami Lead Forecaster Dan Gregoria, along with the help of two students, prepares to release the weather balloon as Lissette Gonzalez, CBS 4 Weather Anchor, counts down the release with the students in the stadium.**



**The weather balloon, filled with helium, rises out of Dolphins Stadium.**

Rob explained to the students the usefulness of weather balloons to meteorologists. Weather balloons are released twice daily at around 90 NWS offices across the country. WFO Miami forecasters use this data daily to assess the stability of the atmosphere, determining thunderstorm potential, how strong thunderstorms may become if they develop, and where they will most likely develop and move. The data also is ingested into computer models, which helps forecasters predict the weather.

In addition to the balloon release, the CBS 4 weather team conducted several informative science demonstrations along with a weather quiz for the students.

The third annual “Marlins Weather Day” was a huge success!